



## **DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY TO REGULATE NON-CONSENSUAL TOWING**

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Beginning October 1, 2003, the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety (DMVS) will begin licensing and regulating rates for towing companies who perform non-consensual towing. This new requirement is in accordance with Senate Bill 121 which was passed by the General Assembly during the 2003 Legislative Session.

The law requires that the DMVS now license wrecker services that perform non-consensual towing of motor vehicles from private property and authorizes the DMVS to regulate the rates charged by wrecker services for the towing and storage of the vehicle. The legislation states that the first twenty-four (24) hours of storage for the vehicle will be at no charge.

All wrecker services located within Georgia that engage in non-consensual towing of vehicles from private property will be required to obtain a non-consensual towing permit. Wrecker services that operate within the bounds of a municipality and are issued a non-consensual towing permit by that municipality would be exempt. Either DMVS or a local municipality must license wrecker services engaged in non-consensual towing from private property.

Wrecker services failing to obtain a non-consensual towing permit or failing to abide by the DMVS Rules and Regulations can be assessed a civil penalty of \$2,500.

To obtain more information or if you have a complaint, contact the DMVS Commercial Vehicle and Compliance Unit at (678) 413-8746 or 8754. A copy of the non-consensual towing rules may be found at [www.dmv.ga.gov](http://www.dmv.ga.gov). The application and instructions will be listed on the website shortly.